

**ABSTRACT**

According to one embodiment of the present invention, a currency processing system includes three currency processing stages. The first currency processing stage includes a plurality of compact currency handling devices for denominating and counting currency bills. The second currency processing stage includes a high-capacity currency handling device for denominating, counting, and sorting currency bills. The third currency processing stage includes a plurality of compact currency handling devices for counting currency bills. A controller is operatively coupled with the first, second, and third currency processing stages for receiving and comparing information related to the counting of currency at each currency processing stage.